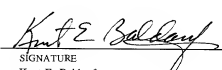


Form PTO-1390 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (REV 10-95)		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 1217-001125
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		U.S. APPLICATION NO. (PCT/US 371) 09/581604
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JF98/05638	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 14.12.98 (December 14, 1998)	PRIORITY DATES CLAIMED 16.12.97 (December 16, 1997)
TITLE OF INVENTION COATING FLUID FOR FORMING HARD COATING AND SUBSTRATES COVERED WITH HARD COATING		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Hirokazu TANAKA, Masafumi HIRAI and Chiemi MURAKAMI		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
<p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).</p> <p>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.</p> <p>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau)</p> <p>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau.</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</p> <p>6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).</p> <p>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau.</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired</p> <p>d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</p> <p>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).</p> <p>Items 11. to 16. below concern document(s) or information included:</p> <p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.</p> <p>12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</p> <p>13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment</p> <p>14. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter</p> <p>16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information:</p> <p>a. WO 99/31185-Front Page with Abstract and Search Report (2 pp.)</p> <p>b. Written Opinion and Reply (in Japanese and with English translations)</p>		

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.53) 09/581604		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP98/05638		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 1217-001125	
17. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted:				CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY	
BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)):					
Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO.....				\$840.00	
International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482).....				\$670.00	
No international preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) but international search fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)).....				\$760.00	
Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO.....				\$970.00	
International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(2)-(4).....				\$96.00	
ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =				\$ 840.00	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).				\$ 0.00	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE		
Total claims	12 - 20 =	0	X \$18.00	\$ 0.00	
Independent claims	2 - 3 =	0	X \$78.00	\$ 0.00	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+ \$260.00	\$ 0.00	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$ 840.00	
Reduction of 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Verified Small Entity Statement must also be filed (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).				\$ 420.00	
SUBTOTAL =				\$ 420.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f))				\$ 00.00	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$ 420.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property				\$ 40.00	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$ 460.00	
				Amount to be refunded	\$
				charged	\$
a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ <u>460.00</u> to cover the above fees is enclosed.					
b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>23-0650</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: Kent E. Baldauf 700 Koppers Building 436 Seventh Avenue Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219-1818 Telephone: (412) 471-8815 Facsimile: (412) 471-4094					
				 SIGNATURE Kent E. Baldauf NAME 25,626 REGISTRATION NUMBER	

Hirokazu TANAKA, Masafumi HIRAI

Applicant or Patentee: and Chiemi MURAKAMI

Attorney's

Serial or Patent No.:

Docket No.: 1217-001125

Filed or Issued:

For: COATING LIQUID FOR FORMING HARD COAT FILM AND SUBSTRATE COATED WITH SUCH A FILM

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) & 1.27(c))--SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN**

I hereby declare that I am

X the owner of the small business concern identified below:
an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf
of the concern identified below:

NAME OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN CATALYSTS & CHEMICALS INDUSTRIES CO., LTD.
ADDRESS OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN 580, Horikawa-cho, Saiwai-ku, Kawasaki-shi,
Kanagawa 210-0913, Japan

I hereby declare that the above identified small business concern qualifies
as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR 121.12, and reproduced in 37 CFR
1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees to the United States Patent and
Trademark Office, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those
of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement,
(1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the
previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time,
part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year,
and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or
indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a
third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and
remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the
invention, entitled COATING LIQUID FOR FORMING HARD COAT FILM AND SUBSTRATE COATED
WITH SUCH A FILM by inventor(s) Hirokazu TANAKA, Masafumi
HIRAI and Chiemi MURAKAMI
described in

X the specification filed herewith.
X application serial no. PCT/JP98/05638, filed December 14, 1998.
patent no. _____, issued _____.

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not
exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights in the
invention is listed below* and no rights to the invention are held by any person,
other than the inventor, who would not qualify as an independent inventor under
37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person made the invention, or by any concern which would
not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d), or a nonprofit
organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e). *NOTE: Separate verified statements are
required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the
invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
INDIVIDUAL SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
INDIVIDUAL SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification
of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status
prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any
maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer
appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

005190-4091350

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING Osamu UTSUMI

TITLE OF PERSON IF OTHER THAN OWNER President

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING c/o CATALYSTS & CHEMICALS INDUSTRIES CO., LTD., 580,
Horikawa-cho, Saiwai-ku, Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa
210-0913, Japan

SIGNATURE *O. Utsumi*

DATE May 11, 2000

09/581604

416 Rec'd PCT/PTO 15 JUN 2000

PATENT APPLICATION/PCT
Attorney Docket No. 1217-001125

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
HIROKAZU TANAKA, : COATING LIQUID FOR
MASAFUMI HIRAI : FORMING HARD COAT FILM
and CHIEMI MURAKAMI : AND SUBSTRATE COATED
: WITH SUCH A FILM
International Application :
No. PCT/JP98/05638 :
International Filing Date :
14 December 1998 :
Priority Date Claimed :
16 December 1997 :
Serial No. Not Yet Assigned :
Filed Concurrently Herewith :
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
June 15, 2000

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PATENT APPLICATION
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, line 21, delete "BACKGROUND ART" and insert therefor --BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--.

Page 4, line 14, delete "it is an object of".

Page 4, line 15, delete "to provide" and insert therefor --provides--.

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Page 4, line 21, delete "Another object of the" and insert --The--.

Page 4, line 21, delete "is to provide" and insert therefor --also provides--.

Page 5, line 1, change "DISCLOSURE" to --BACKGROUND--.

Page 6, line 20, delete "BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION" and insert therefor --DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--.

Page 21, line 1, delete "EFFECT OF THE INVENTION".

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3 and 4 as follows:

Claim 3, line 2, delete "or 2".

Claim 4, line 3, delete "any".

Claim 4, line 4, delete "of claims 1 to 3" and insert --claim 1--.

Add new claims 6-12 as follows:

--6. The coating liquid for forming a hard coat film as claimed in claim 2, wherein the composite metal oxide particles have their surface modified with an organosilicon compound.

7. A substrate coated with a hard coat film, which is formed by applying to the substrate surface the coating liquid for forming a hard coat film as claimed in claim 2.

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8. A substrate coated with a hard coat film, which is formed by applying to the substrate surface the coating liquid for forming a hard coat film as claimed in claim 3.

9. A substrate coated with a hard coat film, which is formed by applying to the substrate surface the coating liquid for forming a hard coat film as claimed in claim 6.

10. The substrate coated with a hard coat film as claimed in claim 7, wherein the hard coat film has its surface overcoated with an antireflection film.

11. The substrate coated with a hard coat film as claimed in claim 8, wherein the hard coat film has its surface overcoated with an antireflection film.

12. The substrate coated with a hard coat film as claimed in claim 9, wherein the hard coat film has its surface overcoated with an antireflection film.--

REMARKS

Amendments have been made to the specification in order to place the application in conformance with standard United States Patent practice.

Claim 3 and 4 have been amended to eliminate the multiple dependencies. New claims 6-12 have been added to more fully define the invention.

Examination and allowance of pending claims 1-12 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

WEBB ZIESENHEIM LOGSDON
ORKIN & HANSON, P.C.

By



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DESCRIPTION

COATING LIQUID FOR FORMING HARD COAT FILM AND
SUBSTRATE COATED WITH SUCH A FILM

5

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to a coating liquid
for forming a hard coat film on a surface of a
substrate such as a glass, a plastic or the like. More
particularly, the present invention relates to a
10 coating liquid for forming a hard coat film which has a
high refractive index and a high transparency, being
excellent in resistance to hot water, weather
resistance, scuffing resistance, attrition resistance
(abrasion resistance) and dye affinity (dye
15 receptivity) and adherence to a substrate, and which
does not exhibit photochromism.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to a
substrate coated with a hard coat film which formed
from the above coating liquid.

20

BACKGROUND ART

Various hard coat films and methods of forming the
hard coat films have been proposed with the intent to
provide a hard coat film having a high refractive index

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on a surface of a substrate such as a transparent plastic or glass.

For example, Japanese Patent Laid-open Publication No. 63(1988)-247702 discloses a coating film which contains a specified organosilicon compound and particles of titanium oxide. Further, Japanese Patent Laid-open Publication No. 2(1990)-264902 discloses a hard coat film comprising an organosilicon compound and fine particles of a composite metal oxide consisting of cerium oxide and titanium oxide. Still further, Japanese Patent Laid-open Publication No. 3(1991)-68901 discloses a hard coat film comprising fine particles, which the fine particles obtained by treating fine particles of titanium oxide with silica and/or an organosilicon compound, and an organosilicon compound.

However, the coating film described in Japanese Patent Laid-open Publication No. 63(1988)-247702 has drawbacks in that the weather resistance thereof is poor, the coating film discolours with the passage of time and also the adherence to substrates is not satisfactory. The hard coat films described in Japanese Patent Laid-open Publication Nos. 2(1990)-264902 and 3(1991)-68901 have drawbacks in that the weather resistance thereof, although slightly improved as compared with that of the coating film described in

Japanese Patent Laid-open Publication No. 63(1988)-
247702, is still unsatisfactory and that further the
scuffing resistance and attrition resistance of the
hard coat films are poor.

- 5 In Japanese Patent Application No. 3(1991)-152098
(Japanese Patent Laid-open Publication No. 5(1993)-
2102), the inventors proposed a hard coat film
containing fine particles of a compound oxide
consisting of titanium oxide and iron oxide or fine
10 particles of a compound oxide consisting of titanium
oxide, iron oxide and silica, for resolving the above
problems. In the hard coat film described in the
Japanese Patent Laid-open Publication No. 5(1993)-2102,
fine particles of a composite metal oxide wherein the
15 weight ratio of iron oxide to titanium oxide,
 $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{TiO}_2$, is in the range of 0.005 to 1.0 are used as
a component for forming the hard coat film.

- However, the hard coat film described in the
Japanese Patent Laid-open Publication No. 5(1993)-2102,
20 although improved in weather resistance, may be
slightly tinted with yellowish hue because the iron
oxide per se is yellowish. Further, there is the
problem that the above composite metal oxide containing
iron oxide is photochromic, so that, when the hard coat
25 film containing the composite metal oxide is irradiated

with, for example, ultraviolet rays, the tone of the hard coat film per se is changed. These coloring and tone change are generally canceled when the irradiation is terminated. However, there are occasions in which the restoration to the original state is difficult in films containing metal oxide having photochromic.

Still further, when an antireflective multicoat layer is formed on the above hard coat film, there occurs the problem that the restoration of the discolored hard coat film to the original tone is inhibited.

The present invention has been accomplished with a view to solving the above problems of the prior art. Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a coating liquid for forming a hard coat film which has a high refractive index and a high transparency, being excellent in resistance to hot water, weather resistance, scuffing resistance, attrition resistance, dye affinity, and adherence to a substrate, and which does not exhibit photochromism. Another object of the present invention is to provide a substrate coated with a hard coat film wherein the above hard coat film with excellent properties is provided on a substrate surface.

DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

The first coating liquid for forming a hard coat film according to the present invention comprises a matrix-forming component and particles of a composite

5 metal oxide,

wherein the composite metal oxide particles are composed of an iron oxide component and a titanium oxide component, the weight ratio $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{TiO}_2$ being in the range of 0.0005 to less than 0.005, provided that
10 Fe_2O_3 and TiO_2 represent the weight in terms of Fe_2O_3 of the iron oxide component and the weight in terms of TiO_2 of the titanium oxide component, respectively, and

wherein the compound oxide particles have an average particle size ranging from 1 to 100 nm.

15 The second coating liquid for forming a hard coat film according to the present invention comprises a matrix-forming component and particles of a compound oxide (double oxide, composite oxide),

wherein the composite metal oxide particles are
20 composed of iron oxide, titanium oxide and silica, the weight ratio $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{TiO}_2$ being in the range of 0.0005 to less than 0.005, and the weight ratio $\text{SiO}_2/(\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{TiO}_2)$ being in the range of 0.001 to 1.0, provided that Fe_2O_3 , TiO_2 and SiO_2 represent the weight in terms of
25 Fe_2O_3 of iron oxide, the weight in terms of TiO_2 of

titanium oxide and the weight in terms of SiO_2 of silica, respectively, and

wherein the compound oxide particles have an average particle size ranging from 1 to 100 nm.

5 In the above first and second coating liquid for forming a hard coat film, it is preferred that the composite metal oxide particles have their surface modified with an organosilicon compound.

The substrate coated with a hard coat film
10 according to the present invention is formed by applying to the substrate surface the above coating liquid for forming a hard coat film.

This substrate coated with a hard coat film may have its surface overcoated with an antireflection film.

15

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Fig. 1 shows the photochromism of a hard coat film overcoated with an antireflection coating film.

20

BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

The first and second coating liquids for forming a hard coat film and substrate coated with a hard coat film according to the present invention will be described below in detail.

25

First coating liquid for forming a hard coat film

The first coating liquid for forming a hard coat film according to the present invention (hereinafter referred to as "coating liquid (A)") will now be

5 described.

The coating liquid (A) contains fine particles of a composite metal oxide composed of an iron oxide component and a titanium oxide component, a matrix-forming component and an organic solvent.

10 [Composite metal oxide particle]

Fine particles of a composite metal oxide composed of an iron oxide component and a titanium oxide component are used as the above compound oxide particles.

15 The terminology "composite metal oxide composed of an iron oxide component and a titanium oxide component" used herein means any of the following:

- (a) a composite metal oxide consisting of iron oxide and titanium oxide chemically bonded together,
- 20 (b) a solid solution consisting of oxides of iron and titanium, and
- (c) a mixture of substances (a) and (b) mentioned above.

Each of the above iron oxide and titanium oxide
25 may be in the form of a hydrate or a hydroxide.

The average particle size of compound oxide particles contained in the coating liquid (A) is preferably in the range of 1 to 100 nm, still preferably 2 to 60 nm.

5 The hard coat film obtained from the coating liquid containing composite metal oxide particles whose average particle size exceeds 100 nm is likely to be cloudy and opaque. On the other hand, the hard coat film obtained from the coating liquid containing
10 composite metal oxide particles whose average particle size is less than 1 nm may have not only such an unsatisfactory hardness as to cause poor scuffing resistance but also an unsatisfactorily high refractive index.

15 In the iron oxide/titanium oxide compound oxide particles contained in the coating liquid (A), the weight ratio $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{TiO}_2$ is in the range of 0.0005 to less than 0.005, preferably 0.001 to 0.0045, provided that Fe_2O_3 and TiO_2 represent the weight in terms of
20 Fe_2O_3 of the iron oxide component and the weight in terms of TiO_2 of the titanium oxide component, respectively.

 The weather resistance of obtained coating film is lowered in accordance with the decrease of the iron
25 oxide ratio of the compound oxide. However, as long as

the weight ratio $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{TiO}_2$ is at least 0.0005, a hard coat film having practically satisfactory weather resistance can be obtained. Further, when the weight ratio is less than 0.005, the obtained hard coat film is free from being tinted with yellowish hue and also free from exhibiting photochromism.

The above composite metal oxide particles can be those having their surface modified with an organosilicon compound. The modification of the surface of the composite metal oxide particles with an organosilicon compound enables enhancing the reactivity and affinity between the composite metal oxide particles and the matrix-forming component and the affinity between the composite metal oxide particles and the solvent in the coating liquid for forming a hard coat film.

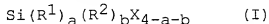
Organosilicon compounds generally known as silane coupling agents are used as the above organosilicon compound, and appropriate one is selected from among those in conformity with, for example, the types of matrix-forming component and solvent. Examples of the organosilicon compounds include tetraethoxysilane, methyltrimethoxysilane, trimethylchlorosilane, vinyltriethoxysilane, γ -glycidoxypropyltriethoxysilane or γ -glycidoxypropylmethyldiethoxysilane.

The modification of the surface of composite metal oxide particles can be carried out by, for example, the method in which composite metal oxide particles are immersed in an alcohol solution containing the above organosilicon compound for a given period of time and thereafter the solvent is removed, or the method in which an alcohol solution of organosilicon compound is mixed with a composite metal oxide sol and, after a given period of time, the water of the mixture solution is separated and concentrated by ultrafiltration or other means. The amount of added organosilicon compound is appropriately decided on in conformity with, for example, the amount of hydroxyl group present on the surface of compound oxide particles.

[Matrix-forming component]

Matrix-forming components for use in conventional coating liquids for forming a hard coat film can be employed as the matrix-forming component of the coating liquid (A) of the present invention. Examples thereof include hydrolyzable organosilicon compounds, acrylic resins, melamine resins and polyvinyl alcohol resins. Of these, hydrolyzable organosilicon compounds are preferred.

For example, silane compounds of the following general formula (I) are preferably used as the hydrolyzable organosilicon compound.



- 5 wherein each of a and b is an integer of 0 to 2;
 R^1 represents an alkyl, an alkenyl, phenyl or a
 halogenated hydrocarbon group; R^2 represents epoxy,
 amino, an amido, mercapto, methacryloyl, cyano, vinyl
 or an organic group containing an aromatic ring having
 10 undergone a nucleus substitution with a halogen; and X
 represents a halogen atom or a hydrolyzable group such
 as an alkoxyl, an alkoxyalkoxyl or an acyloxy.

 Examples of the silane compounds of the above
 formula (I) include:

- 15 tetrafunctional silanes such as tetramethoxysilane
 and tetraethoxysilane;
 trifunctional silanes such as
 methyltrimethoxysilane, methyltriethoxysilane,
 γ -chloropropyltrimethoxysilane,
 20 γ -methacryloyloxypropyltrimethoxysilane,
 γ -glycidoxypropyltrimethoxysilane,
 β -(3,4-epoxycyclohexyl)ethyltrimethoxysilane,
 γ -mercaptopropyltrimethoxysilane,
 N- β -(aminoethyl)- γ -aminopropyltrimethoxysilane,
 25 γ -ureidopropyltrimethoxysilane,

γ -cyanopropyltrimethoxysilane,
 γ -morpholinopropyltrimethoxysilane and
N-phenylaminopropyltrimethoxysilane; and

- bifunctional silanes substituted one alkoxy group
5 of the above trifunctional silanes with methyl, ethyl,
vinyl or other groups.

These organosilicon compounds may be used in
combination.

- Further, these organosilicon compounds may each be
10 used as it is, or in the form of a partial or entire
hydrolyzate, or in the form of a partial polycondensate.

- Still further, when the above organosilicon
compounds are used as the matrix-forming component, the
coating liquid for forming a hard coat film may contain
15 a curing catalyst for accelerating the curing of formed
coating film.

- Examples of curing catalysts include amines such
as n-butylamine, triethylamine and guanidine; amino
acids such as glycine; imidazoles such as 2-
20 methylimidazole, 2,4-diethylimidazole and 2-
phenylimidazole; metal acetylacetonates such as
aluminum acetylacetonate, titanium acetylacetonate and
chromium acetylacetonate; metal salts of organic acid
such as sodium acetate, zinc naphthenate and tin

octylate; Lewis acids such as SnCl_4 , TiCl_4 and ZnCl_2 ; and magnesium perchlorate.

[Organic solvent]

- 5 Examples of the organic solvents that can be used in the coating liquid for forming a hard coat film (A) include alcohols such as methanol, ethanol and isopropanol; cellosolves such as methyl cellosolve and ethyl cellosolve; glycols such as ethylene glycol; 10 esters such as methyl acetate and ethyl acetate; ethers such as diethyl ether and tetrahydrofuran; ketones such as acetone and methyl ethyl ketone; halogenated hydrocarbons such as dichloroethane; aromatic hydrocarbons such as toluene and xylene; amides such as 15 N,N-dimethylformamide; water and freon. These solvents may be used in combination.

- The coating liquid (A) of the present invention contains the above composite metal oxide particles, matrix-forming component and organic solvent. The 20 amount of composite metal particles contained in the coating liquid (A) is preferably in the range of 20 to 500 parts by weight, still preferably 60 to 300 parts by weight, per 100 parts by weight of matrix provided that the amount of iron oxide is one in terms of Fe_2O_3

and that the amount of iron oxide is one in terms of TiO_2 .

Moreover, the coating liquid (A) may contain, for example, a surfactant, an ultraviolet absorber, an antioxidant, a thixotropic agent, a pigment, a dye, an antistatic agent and a conductive material in conformity with the purpose of the formation of the hard coat film, the use of the substrate coated with the hard coat film, etc.. The coating liquid (A) may contain polycarboxylic acid such as maleic acid, maleic anhydride, itaconic acid or itaconic anhydride. The dye affinity, heat resistance, resistance to hot water and attrition resistance of the hard coat film can be enhanced when such a polycarboxylic acid is added to the coating liquid (A).

[Preparation of coating liquid (A)]

The method of preparing the above coating liquid for forming a hard coat film (A) is not particularly limited. For example, it can be obtained by homogeneously dispersing or dissolving the above compound oxide particles and matrix-forming component in the organic solvent. A sol of iron oxide/titanium oxide compound oxide dispersed in water or an organic solvent is preferably used as the compound oxide

particles. This sol of iron oxide/titanium oxide compound oxide can be produced by conventional methods, for example, the method described in Japanese Patent Laid-open Publication No. 2(1990)-178219.

- 5 The method of producing the sol of the composite metal oxide of iron oxide and titanium oxide will be described in more detail below.

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(1) First, an aqueous solution of a mixture of a titanium compound and an iron compound is subjected to
10 hydrolysis, thereby obtaining a dispersion containing an iron/titanium composite metal oxide hydrate and/or a mixture of iron oxide hydrate and titanium oxide hydrate.

(2) Subsequently, hydrogen peroxide is added to
15 the dispersion so that the weight ratio of $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2/(\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{TiO}_2)$ is in the range of 4 to 7, and heated at about 50°C or higher to thereby dissolve or deflocculate the metal oxide hydrate.

(3) The thus obtained solution is heated at 60°C
20 or higher, preferably 80°C or higher, with the result that the compound dissolved in hydrogen peroxide is hydrolyzed to thereby enable obtaining a sol of the composite metal oxide composed of iron oxide and titanium oxide.

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The coating liquid for forming a hard coat film (A) according to the present invention is obtained by homogeneously dispersing the thus obtained sol of the composite metal oxide of iron oxide and titanium oxide in an organic solvent in which the matrix-forming component has been dissolved or dispersed. The sol of the composite metal oxide of iron oxide and titanium oxide may be used in the form of a water dispersion sol or a dispersion in an organic solvent substituted for water (organosol).

The aforementioned examples of organic solvents can be used as the organic solvent for the mixing with the sol of the composite metal oxide of iron oxide and titanium oxide or for the sol solvent substitution.

15

Second coating liquid for forming a hard coat film

The second coating liquid for forming a hard coat film according to the present invention (hereinafter referred to as "coating liquid (B)") will be described below.

20

In this coating liquid (B), the composite metal oxide particles composed of an iron oxide component, a titanium oxide component and a silica component instead of the composite metal oxide particles composed of an

iron oxide component and a titanium oxide component used in the coating liquid (A) are used.

[Composite metal oxide particle]

5 The terminology "composite metal oxide composed of an iron oxide component, a titanium oxide component and a silica component" used herein means any of the following:

 (d) a composite metal oxide consisting of iron
10 oxide, titanium oxide and silica chemically bonded together,

 (e) a solid solution consisting of oxides of iron, titanium and silicon, and

 (f) a mixture of substances (d) and (e) mentioned
15 above.

Each of the above iron oxide and titanium oxide may be in the form of a hydrate or a hydroxide, and silica may be silicic anhydride or a hydrate thereof.

 The average particle size of these composite metal
20 oxide particles is the same as that of the composite metal oxide particles contained in the coating liquid for forming a hard coat film (A).

 In the composite metal oxide particles contained in the coating liquid (B), the weight ratio $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{TiO}_2$
25 is in the range of 0.0005 to less than 0.005,

preferably 0.001 to 0.0045, and the weight ratio $\text{SiO}_2/(\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{TiO}_2)$ is in the range of 0.001 to 1.0, preferably 0.005 to 0.8, provided that Fe_2O_3 , TiO_2 and SiO_2 represent the weight in terms of Fe_2O_3 of iron oxide, the weight in terms of TiO_2 of titanium oxide and the weight in terms of SiO_2 of silica, respectively.

When the silica component is contained in the above range in the composite metal oxide particles, the long-term stability of the coating liquid and the weather resistance of the obtained hard coat film can be enhanced. However, when the weight ratio $\text{SiO}_2/(\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{TiO}_2)$ exceeds 1.0, the refractive index of the hard coat film may be unfavorably lowered. On the other hand, when the weight ratio is less than 0.001, there is hardly any effect of containing the silica component exerted.

These composite metal oxide particles may have their surface modified with an organic silane compound in the same manner as aforementioned. Those set forth hereinbefore can be used as the organic silane compound.

The coating liquid for forming a hard coat film (B) according to the present invention is produced in the same manner as the coating liquid (A), except that fine particles of the composite metal oxide of iron oxide, titanium oxide and silica are used in place of

fine particles of the composite metal oxide of iron oxide and titanium oxide. The sol of composite metal oxide of iron oxide, titanium oxide and silica used in the production of the coating liquid (B) can be

- 5 prepared by conventional methods, for example, the method described in Japanese Patent Laid-open Publication No. 2(1990)-178219 as employed in the above-mentioned production of the sol of composite metal oxide of iron oxide and titanium oxide.

10

Substrate coated with hard coat film

The substrate coated with a hard coat film according to the present invention will be described below.

- 15 The substrate coated with a hard coat film according to the present invention has a hard coat film formed on a substrate surface by applying the above coating liquid for forming a hard coat film (A) or (B) thereto.

- 20 As substrates, glasses, plastics and other materials can be used. Examples thereof include spectacle lenses, various optical lenses for cameras and other instruments, CRT front panels, optical filters, show window cases, window glasses, contact

glasses for copier, automobile light covers and various ultraviolet screening filters.

The hard coat film can be formed on the above substrates by conventional methods, for example, the method in which the substrate surface is coated with the coating liquid (A) or (B) by dipping, spinner, spray, roll coater, flexographic printing or other technique, dried and heated at temperatures which should not exceed the heat resistance temperature of the substrate so as to effect curing.

The substrate coated with a hard coat film according to the present invention may have its hard coat film overcoated with an antireflection film.

The antireflection film can be formed on the hard coat film by conventional methods, for example, the method in which, after the above coating liquid application, drying and curing, a plurality of components with refractive indices different from each other are alternately laminated onto the hard coat film by vacuum deposition.

It is generally preferred that the thickness of the antireflection film thus formed on the substrate coated with the hard coat film be in the range of 0.1 to 20 μm , especially 1 to 7 μm .

EFFECT OF THE INVENTION

The use of the coating liquid for forming a hard coat film according to the present invention enables forming a hard coat film with high refractive index on the surface of a substrate such as a plastic lens.

For example, a plastic lens with a hard coat film formed by applying the coating liquid of the present invention onto the surface of a lens composed of a plastic base material with high refractive index is free from any interference fringe attributed to a refractive index difference between the plastic lens and the hard coat film. The hard coat film on the plastic lens is free from discoloration by light irradiation attributed to photochromism.

Further, the thus formed hard coat film is excellent in weather resistance, and has a high surface hardness to thereby ensure excellent scuffing resistance and attrition resistance. The hard coat film does not have photochromism, so that it is free from discoloration by light irradiation. The hard coat film has also excellent dye affinity. Therefore, the hard coat film is preferably used on spectacle lenses and various optical lenses for cameras and other devices. For example, cameras and other image pickup devices fitted with a lens having its surface coated

with the above hard coat film are advantageous over those fitted with a lens having its surface not coated with the hard coat film in that, for example, clear images can be picked up with less quantity of light.

- 5 Still further, the formation of this hard coat film on the surface of, for example, a show window or a window glass enables obtaining a coated substrate with excellent transparency and excellent ultraviolet screening effect. Thus, it enables not only prolonging
- 10 the life of the coated substrate but also preventing the sunburn of items placed inside the show window, etc.

- Still further, the formation of this hard coat film on the surface of a light cover of, for example, an automobile is effective in increasing the degree of
- 15 light focusing because of the high refractive index of thereby increase brightness.

- The coating liquid for forming a hard coat film according to the present invention can be applied to not only the surface of a glass substrate but also the
- 20 surface of a plastic substrate composed of, for example, a polycarbonate resin, an acrylic resin, a polystyrene resin, a polyester resin or a polyurethane resin to thereby form hard coat films. These hard coat films are suitable to use for an ultraviolet screening.

Moreover, the coating liquid for forming a hard coat film according to the present invention is suitable for not only the formation of the hard coat film but also the formation of a primer layer with high refractive index of a lens with high refractive index.

For example, the plastic lens is generally highly resistant to impact. However, the lens for high refractive index has a small thickness, so that the impact resistance thereof is poor. The lens having high refractive index comprises a lens having its surface coated with a hard coat film with high refractive index, this hard coat film overcoated with a film with low refractive index. The film with low refractive index is generally formed by vapor deposition or the like. The formation of the film with the low refractive index causes the lens to strain with the result that the impact resistance of the lens is sharply decreased and results in the lens cracking.

For preventing the lens cracking attributed to the decrease of the impact resistance, it is required to interpose a primer layer for impact absorption between the lens and the hard coat film. When the refractive index of the primer layer is lower than the refractive index of the lens, there may occur an interference fringe of light attributed to the primer layer. For

avoiding this interference fringe, it is required to form a primer layer having the same high level of refractive index as that of the lens. The coating liquid for forming a hard coat film according to the present invention is suitable to use as the coating liquid for forming the above primer layer with high refractive index.

EXAMPLES

- 10 The present invention is now illustrated with reference to the following Examples, but such examples in no way limit the scope of the invention.

Example 1

- 15 Preparation of sol of iron oxide/titanium oxide compound oxide

0.2 part by weight, in terms of Fe_2O_3 , of ferric chloride and 99.8 parts by weight, in terms of TiO_2 , of titanium tetrachloride were dissolved in pure water, thereby obtaining 10,000 parts by weight of an aqueous solution of mixture. 15% aqueous ammonia was slowly added to the aqueous solution of mixture until the pH thereof became 9.0, thereby obtaining a co-precipitate gel of iron oxide hydrate and titanium oxide hydrate.

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The thus obtained co-precipitate gel was dehydrated and washed. 1150 parts by weight of 35% hydrogen peroxide and 250 parts by weight of pure water were added to 1100 parts by weight of the co-precipitate gel, and heated to 80°C. As a result, a reddish-brown solution was obtained. This solution was diluted with pure water so that the concentration of iron and titanium oxides contained in the solution, in terms of $(\text{TiO}_2 + \text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3)$, became 1.0% by weight, and heated at 200°C for 9 hr in an autoclave.

Thereafter, the water of the solution was replaced by methanol, and the mixture was concentrated until the concentration in terms of $(\text{TiO}_2 + \text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3)$ became 20% by weight. Thus, there was obtained a sol of composite metal oxide of iron oxide and titanium oxide (sol A₁) having an average particle size of 11 nm and a weight ratio $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{TiO}_2$ of 1/499.

Preparation of coating liquid for forming hard coat film

64.2 parts by weight of a 0.01 N aqueous solution of HCl was slowly dropped under agitation into a reaction vessel in which 276.1 parts by weight of γ -glycidoxypyrpyltrimethoxysilane had been placed while maintaining the temperature of the reaction vessel at

10°C, thereby hydrolyzing the γ -glycidoxypyrpyltrimethoxysilane. 100.2 parts by weight of ethanol and 215 parts by weight of isopropanol were added to the resultant solution, thereby obtaining a matrix-forming component.

1173.4 parts by weight of the above sol A₁ was added to the liquid containing the matrix-forming component, and further 10.03 parts by weight of aluminum acetylacetonate was added thereto. The resultant liquid was mixed well, thereby obtaining a coating liquid for forming a hard coat film.

Formation of hard coat film

Resin-made lens substrate (MR-6 produced by Mitsui Chemicals, Inc., having a refractive index of 1.60) was immersed in a 13% aqueous solution of NaOH at 47°C for some minutes, and washed well with water.

The washed substrate was immersed in the above coating liquid, lifted at a speed of 80 mm/min, dried at 90°C for 18 min, and heated at 104°C for 90 min to effect curing. Thus, a hard coat film was formed.

Formation of antireflection film (multicoat layer)

The substrate coated with the hard coat film, formed in the above manner, was exposed to argon plasma

of 200 W output in vacuum for 30 sec, and sequentially overcoated with five thin films respectively composed of SiO_2 , ZrO_2 , SiO_2 , ZrO_2 and SiO_2 by vacuum evaporation so that an antireflection film was formed.

- 5 The optical thickness of this antireflection film was such that, setting the design wavelength (λ) at 510 nm, the thickness of each of the first (SiO_2), fourth (ZrO) and fifth (SiO_2) layers was about $1/4 \lambda$ and the total of the thicknesses of the second (ZrO) and third (SiO_2) layers was about $1/4 \lambda$.
- 10

Property of hard coat film

The following properties of the thus obtained hard coat film coated substrate were evaluated.

- 15 (a) Photochromism

(a-1) Hard coat film not having antireflection coating

The substrate with hard coat film was subjected to exposure for 200 hr in sunshine weather meter

- 20 (manufactured by Suga Test Instruments Co., Ltd.).
Immediately thereafter, the appearance thereof was observed to evaluate the occurrence of coloring.

No coloring perceived: no photochromism, and
coloring perceived: presence of photochromism.

- 25 (a-2) Hard coat film having antireflection coating

The substrate with hard coat film was subjected to exposure for 200 hr in sunshine weather meter (manufactured by Suga Test Instruments Co., Ltd.). Thereafter, while allowing the substrate to stand still in a dark room, the average transmission of visible radiation was measured 1 min later, 10 min later, 30 min later, 1 hr later, 3 hr later, 6 hr later, 1 day later, 3 days later and 6 days later by the use of spectrophotometer (Ubest V-550, manufactured by Japan Spectroscopic Co., Ltd.). Thus, the level of coloring was evaluated through the change of transmission with the passage of time. The above average transmission means the average of all light transmissions over the wavelength range of 400 to 780 nm.

15 (b) High refractivity

"o" was assigned when the refractive index obtained as a result of analysis of the reflection interference spectrum of the surface of hard coat film was 1.58 or over.

20 (c) Scuffing resistance

Steel wool was reciprocated 10 times under a load of 2 kg on the surface of a 1 cm x 3 cm test piece having the hard coat film so that the hard coat film was abraded with the steel wool. The degree of marring was visually evaluated into the following grades:

A: substantially not marred,

B: slightly marred, and

C: extremely marred.

(d) Appearance

- 5 "o" was assigned when the substrate with hard coat film was highly transparent and the coloring thereof was very slight.

(e) Dye affinity

- The substrate with hard coat film was immersed for
10 5 min in 92°C water in which three disperse dyes, viz. red, blue and yellow disperse dyes, had been dissolved. With respect to the hard coat film coated substrate, the extinction coefficient at 550 nm wavelength was measured by means of SM color computer (manufactured by
15 Suga Test Instruments Co., Ltd.), and the following evaluation was made:

o: at least 30% extinction coefficient,

A: 20% to less than 30% extinction coefficient,

and

- 20 x: less than 20% extinction coefficient.

(f) Weather resistance

- The hard coat film coated substrate was subjected to an accelerated exposure test for 400 hr by means of weather meter (manufactured by Suga Test Instruments
25 Co., Ltd.), and the appearance of substrate with hard

coat film and adherence of hard coat film were evaluated.

(f-1) Appearance: The occurrence of coloring was evaluated.

- 5 (f-2) Adherence: The exposed lens was immersed in 80°C water for 2 hr, and 11 parallel cuts were made at intervals of 1 mm in both longitudinal and lateral directions on the lens surface with the use of a knife to thereby form 100 meshes of coating film. A
- 10 cellophane tape was stuck thereto and stripped off. The adherence was evaluated on the basis of the number of meshes of coating film remaining unstripped into the following two grades:

- o: at least 95 meshes of coating film remaining
- 15 unstripped, and
- x: 94 or less meshes of coating film remaining unstripped.

(g) Cloudiness

- The substrate with hard coat film was arranged
- 20 between a black background and a 3-wavelength-type daylight fluorescent lamp, and the pattern of light having been transmitted through the substrate with hard coat film and reflected upon the background was visually inspected. The cloudiness was evaluated on

the basis of the occurrence and degree of pattern into two grades o and x.

(h) Long-term stability

The coating liquid for forming a hard coat film was stored at 10°C for 25 days or 45 days. After the storage, the hard coat film was formed in the above manner, and the properties thereof were measured with respect to five items, viz. items (b) to (e) and (g) mentioned above. The long-term stability was evaluated, the difference between the hard coat film formed from the stored coating liquid and the hard coat film formed from the coating liquid immediately after production with respect to these items, into the following three grades:

- o: no difference with respect to all the items,
Δ: difference found with respect to one or two among the five items, and
x: difference found with respect to 3 or more items.

The results are given in Table 1. With respect to the hard coat film having the antireflection coating, the change of average transmission after light irradiation with the passage of time is shown in Fig. 1.

A sol of the composite metal oxide of iron oxide and titanium oxide having an average particle size of 9 nm (sol B₁) was produced in the same manner as in

Example 1, except that the amounts of ferric chloride and titanium tetrachloride were regulated so that Fe₂O₃/TiO₂ (reduced weight ratio) became 2/98.

A coating liquid for forming a hard coat film was prepared in the same manner as in Example 1, except that the sol B₁ was used in place of the sol A₁. A hard coat film was formed from the coating liquid, and evaluated, in the same manner as in Example 1.

The results are shown in Table 1 and Fig. 1.

Example 2

1000 parts by weight of sol A₁ was placed in a reaction vessel and heated to 63°C. 2000 parts by weight of a solution of a mixture of vinyltriethoxysilane and methanol was slowly added thereto under agitation. After the completion of the addition, the sol of the composite metal oxide of iron oxide and titanium oxide contained in the solution was aged while maintaining the temperature of the solution at 63°C, and the solution was concentrated. Thus, there was obtained a methanol dispersed sol of iron oxide/titanium oxide compound oxide having its surface

modified with vinyltriethoxysilane (concentration:
30.5% by weight, sol A₂).

A coating liquid for forming a hard coat film was
prepared in the same manner as in Example 1, except
5 that the sol A₂ was used in place of the sol A₁. A
hard coat film and a hard coat film having an
antireflection coating were formed from the coating
liquid, and evaluated, in the same manner as in Example
1.

10 The results are shown in Table 1 and Fig. 1.

Example 3

A silicic acid solution (concentration in terms of
SiO₂: 5% by weight) prepared by dealkalizing an aqueous
15 solution of water glass by the use of a cation exchange
resin in advance was mixed with the reddish-brown
solution obtained during the process of preparing the
sol of the composite metal oxide of iron oxide and
titanium oxide in Example 1 in a weight ratio
20 SiO₂/(Fe₂O₃ + TiO₂), wherein Fe₂O₃, TiO₂ and SiO₂
represent the amount in terms of Fe₂O₃ of iron oxide
component, the amount in terms of TiO₂ of titanium
oxide component and the amount in terms of SiO₂ of
silica component, respectively, of 15/100. Thereafter,

the mixture was heated at 170°C for 10 hr in an autoclave.

Thereafter, the water of the solution was replaced by methanol, and the mixture was concentrated until the concentration in terms of ($\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{TiO}_2 + \text{SiO}_2$) became 20% by weight. Thus, there was obtained a sol of the composite metal oxide of iron oxide, titanium oxide and silica having an average particle size of 11 nm (sol C_1).

10 A coating liquid for forming a hard coat film was prepared in the same manner as in Example 1, except that the sol C_1 was used in place of the sol A_1 .
Further, a hard coat film and a hard coat film having an antireflection coating were formed from the coating
15 liquid, and the properties thereof were evaluated, in the same manner as in Example 1.

The results are shown in Table 1 and Fig. 1.

Example 4

20 A sol of the composite metal oxide of iron oxide and titanium oxide having an average particle size of 10 nm (sol D_1) was produced in the same manner as in Example 1, except that the amounts of ferric chloride and titanium tetrachloride were regulated so that
25 $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{TiO}_2$ (weight ratio) became 1/999.

A coating liquid for forming a hard coat film was prepared in the same manner as in Example 1, except that the sol D₁ was used in place of the sol A₁.

Further, a hard coat film and a hard coat film having
5 an antireflection coating were formed from the coating liquid, and the properties thereof were evaluated, in the same manner as in Example 1.

The results are shown in Table 1 and Fig. 1.

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Table 1

	Sol		Photo-chromism	High refract-ivity	Scuffing resistance	Appear-ance	Dye affinity	Weather resistance		Cloudi-ness	Stability	
	$\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{TiO}_2$	$\text{SiO}_2/(\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3+\text{TiO}_2)$						coloring	adherence		25 days	45 days
Example 1	1/499	-	none	0	A	0	0	none	0	0	0	x
Comp.Ex. 1	2/98	-	exhibited	0	A	0	0	occurred	0	0	0	x
Example 2	1/499	-	none	0	A	0	0	none	0	0	0	Δ
Example 3	1/499	15/100	none	0	A	0	0	none	0	0	0	0
Example 4	1/999	-	none	0	A	0	0	none	0	0	0	x

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CLAIMS

1. A coating liquid for forming a hard coat film,
comprising a matrix-forming component and particles of
5 a composite metal oxide,

wherein the composite metal oxide particles are
composed of an iron oxide component and a titanium
oxide component, the weight ratio $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{TiO}_2$ being in
the range of 0.0005 to less than 0.005, provided that
10 Fe_2O_3 and TiO_2 represent the weight in terms of Fe_2O_3
of the iron oxide component and the weight in terms of
 TiO_2 of the titanium oxide component, respectively, and

wherein the composite metal oxide particles have
an average particle size ranging from 1 to 100 nm.

15

2. A coating liquid for forming a hard coat film,
comprising a matrix-forming component and particles of
a composite metal oxide,

wherein the composite metal oxide particles are
20 composed of iron oxide, titanium oxide and silica, the
weight ratio $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{TiO}_2$ being in the range of 0.0005 to
less than 0.005, and the weight ratio $\text{SiO}_2/(\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 +$
 $\text{TiO}_2)$ being in the range of 0.001 to 1.0, provided that
 Fe_2O_3 , TiO_2 and SiO_2 represent the weight in terms of
25 Fe_2O_3 of iron oxide, the weight in terms of TiO_2 of

5

10

15

5. The substrate coated with a hard coat film as claimed in claim 4, wherein the hard coat film has its surface overcoated with an antireflection film.

ABSTRACT

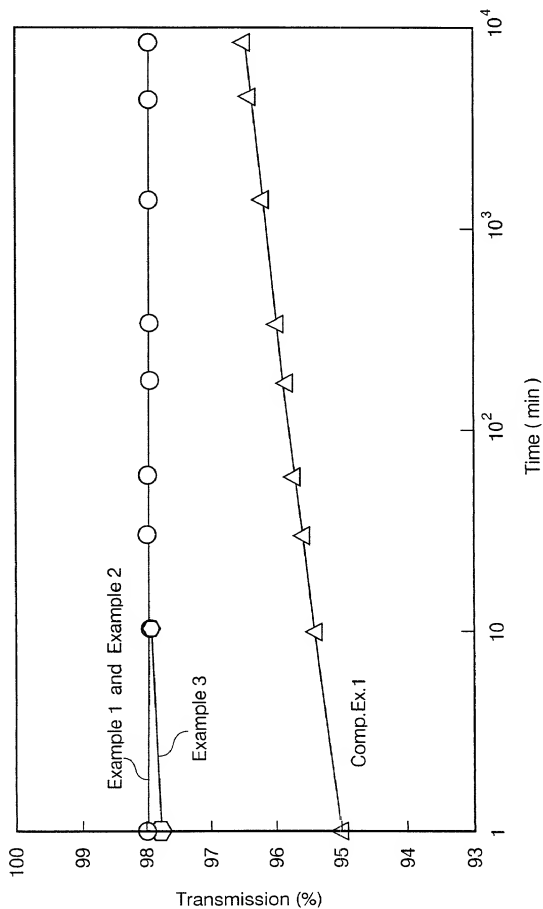
A coating liquid for forming on a substrate surface a hard coat film which exhibits a high refractive index, being excellent in resistance to hot water, weather resistance, scuffing resistance, attrition resistance and dye affinity, and which does not exhibit photochromism, is provided.

A coating liquid for forming a hard coat film, comprises a matrix-forming component and composite metal oxide particles of 1 to 100 nm average particle size, composed either of an iron oxide component and a titanium oxide component used at a specified ratio or an iron oxide component, a titanium oxide component and a silica component used at a specified ratio. A substrate coated with a hard coat film is formed by applying the above coating liquid to the substrate surface and effecting drying.

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Fig.1



Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application

English Language Declaration

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

COATING LIQUID FOR FORMING HARD COAT FILM AND SUBSTRATE COATED WITH SUCH A FILM
the specification of which

(check one)

☒ is attached hereto.

☒ was filed on December 14, 1998 as

Application Serial No. PCT/JP98/05638

and was amended on _____
(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Priority Claimed

<u>346187/1997</u>	<u>Japan</u>	<u>16/Dec./1997</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	Yes	No
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	Yes	No
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	Yes	No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)
(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)
(patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (List name and registration number)

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Post Office Address <u>c/o Wakamatsu Plant, Catalysts & Chemicals Industries Co., Ltd.,</u>	
<u>13-2, Kitaminato-machi, Wakamatsu-ku, Kitakyushu-shi, Fukuoka 808-0027, Japan</u>	

(Supply similar information and signature for third and subsequent joint inventors.)

Full name of third joint inventor, if any

300
Chiemi MURAKAMI

Third inventor's signature

CHIEMI MURAKAMI

Date

May 11, 2000

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Citizenship

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Full name of fourth joint inventor, if any

Fourth inventor's signature

Date

Residence

Citizenship

Post Office Address

Full name of fifth joint inventor, if any

Fifth inventor's signature

Date

Residence

Citizenship

Post Office Address

Full name of sixth joint inventor, if any

Sixth inventor's signature

Date

Residence

Citizenship

Post Office Address

005150140161500